

Date: Tue, 12 Jul 94 03:07:11 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #777
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Tue, 12 Jul 94 Volume 94 : Issue 777

Today's Topics:

 Anyone USE DTMF Paging ?
 Atlanta Hamfest???

 CW: Complete the Sentence
 Does CW as a pre-req

 FCC Delays now at 17 weeks! PLEASE READ!!! (2 msgs)
 HTX-202 S meter - What does it measure during TX?

 IARU Contest (2 msgs)
 Letter to Washington about FCC delays
 QSL addresses - please help

What sends COMMAS on CW & very high power in Bowie, MD area? (2 msgs)
 Where does the name "ham" originate?
 which Ringo do I buy?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 11 Jul 1994 22:18:47 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!!tvr@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Anyone USE DTMF Paging ?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

IMHO, and you can precede everything I say with that, the paging function
is only useful if you know you're in a situation that warrants it, such
as volunteer event communications or sometime when you're expecting a
call on a crowded frequency. I don't use it because it's too restrictive
for me. I enjoy listening in and responding occasionally to all
conversations. If a paging function allowed the use of subtones to cause

an alert beep, or a data burst in the case of some radios, then normal comms could be used in the interim. Besides, I do listen for my call sign when the radio is on.

Another reason to use some sort of squelch mechanism is when you're in an environment where idle chatter is not appreciated. My partner finds the radio quite irritating (in part as a reaction to the operating habits of one particular operator, a repeater trustee) and i don't always want to wear a headset mike. I will ask that people either use a specific PL (tone squelch) or rather than paging, ordinary code squelch, in part as there is no standardized method of paging on 2m/440. That may mean going simplex if the repeater(s) you prefer are not compatible. I usually enjoy listening as well, but try to be courteous to those around me, and on the infrequent times i use public transit, i am required by local law to use a headset or some kind of squelch mechanism.

page enabled, I can't hear what's going on so I don't know if I'm stepping on another QSO in progress. Again, these are only my views and should be taken with lots of salt.

Right, you need to turn off tone/code squelch before transmitting!

You'll find that any repeater that is intelligent or has an autopatch will not pass tones.

In my area, most pass through neither DTMF for code squelch or CTSS for tone squelch. Hence you need to use simplex or find a suitable repeater and/or squelch mechanism.

Repeater controller designers: Please think about a DTMF sequence or CTSS tone that would cause disable interpretation of such codes until carrier drops and pass these thru so such mechanisms code be used.

Everyone else in metropolitan areas: Consider using a commercial paging service instead and hope those who want to reach you who don't have phones nearby can use an autopatch to reach you. Page with a frequency instead of (or in addition to) a phone number, many services will let you use '*' to indicate the decimal point.

I guess that, in certain situations, paging could be useful, but because paging is slightly different for each radio (none of mine can page another), all parties involved need to have the same radio, at least the same brand.

I find code squelch serves many of the same purposes, and since it used for access control on selected repeaters, the HT manufacturers have had to do that reasonably compatibly.

-- KD6PAG

Date: 11 Jul 94 20:09:35 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!emory!hubcap.clemson.edu!hubcap!
pruitt@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Atlanta Hamfest???
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I understand that it is Saturday and Sunday, July 23-24 at the Cobb
Galleria Center, which is near Cumberland Mall.

Date: 11 Jul 1994 19:36:24 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!
newsfeed.ksu.ksu.edu!moe.ksu.ksu.edu!news.mid.net!crcnis1.unl.edu!unlinfo.unl.edu!
gbrown@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: CW: Complete the Sentence
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Don Montgomery (donrm@sr.hp.com) wrote:
(Stuff deleted)

: BENS BEST BENT -----

: what's the last word?

: Anyone know any more?

: Don K6LTS

: donrm@sr.hp.com

...WIRE...?

Greg WB0RTK

Date: 11 Jul 1994 19:55:31 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!ceylon!
news2.near.net!info-server.bbn.com!news!levin@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Does CW as a pre-req
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <940711083503_2@ccm.hf.intel.com> Cecil_A_Moore@ccm.CH.INTEL.COM (Cecil
A Moore) writes:

JS>Because the IRU treaty that governs ham radio operations worldwide
JS>forbids it for now. Until the treaty is changed, knowledge of morse
JS>code is required to access frequencies below 30MHz.

The Japanese don't seem to have any trouble with the treaty. All it
would take is for the US to tell the other nations that we are not
going to honor it anymore... that's what the Japanese did.

You forget to mention that the no-code licenses issued in Japan for HF
are restricted to domestic contacts and low power, if I'm not
mistaken.

/JBL KD10N

Date: 11 Jul 1994 19:28:20 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!nic-nac.CSU.net!usc!
howland.reston.ans.net!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!news.umbc.edu!haven.umd.edu!cville-
srv.wam.umd.edu!ham@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: FCC Delays now at 17 weeks! PLEASE READ!!!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

To all of you who are awaiting licenses from the FCC:

This word from my buddy John Creel, WB3GXW, the contact for Laurel, MD VEC:

DO NOT CALL THE FCC FOR INFORMATION ON YOUR LICENSE STATUS!
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He said that upon his tour of the FCC license processing facility last week,
they now have SIX computer terminals, but only ONE person processing
licenses (this is, sadly, true). The FCC may actually consider volunteers
at some point, but there are certain legalities involved with this that
have not been circumvented yet.

He also said that the FCC is receiving upwards of 50 calls a DAY! And that
in the time it takes to receive a phone call, TWO licenses could be proces-
sed! The backlog is now at 15,000 Form 610s!!!

If your application has taken over 26 weeks, contact your testing team, or
your VEC - but let THEM call the FCC, if necessary.

Supposedly, the delay is growing BECAUSE so much time is being spent on
fielding these phone calls (guess who answers them? The person doing the
data entry, who has to leave the computer to get the damned phone!).

I do have a question though - haven't they ever heard of answering machines?

PLEASE HEED THIS MESSAGE! PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE be patient. Thank you.

--

73,

----- The
 \ / Long Original
Scott Rosenfeld Amateur Radio NF3I Burtonsville, MD | Live \$5.00
WAC-CW/SSB WAS DXCC - 125 QSLed on dipoles -----| Dipoles! Antenna!

Date: 11 Jul 1994 20:52:19 GMT

From: pa.dec.com!src.dec.com!src.dec.com!ira@decwrl.dec.com

Subject: FCC Delays now at 17 weeks! PLEASE READ!!!

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I am going to forward this message to my Senators and Congresspeople. I suggest everyone else with a stake in getting a license do the same. Leave the FCC alone and bug their boss! With all the intractable problems legislators have to deal with, they should be delighted to take on such a simple problem as beaurocratic mismanagement.

Regards,

Ira

Date: 11 Jul 1994 22:17:46 GMT

From: unix.sri.com!headwall.Stanford.EDU!CS.Stanford.EDU!msimon@hplabs.hpl.hp.com

Subject: HTX-202 S meter - What does it measure during TX?

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Hi,

I have an HTX-202 VHF HT and was wondering what the signal strength meter measures during transmit. The owners manual does not discuss the meter at all - The local radio shack does not know either. The meter is the row of lcd tombstones at the bottom of the LCD display.

I assume the conventions used wrt to this meter by the HTX-202 are similar to other HT's.

Tnx

Date: 11 Jul 1994 16:40:20 GMT

From: news1.hh.ab.com!icd.ab.com!bjp@uunet.uu.net
Subject: IARU Contest
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

bad in northern Ohio. 20 Meters is where we did the best. We made 91 contacts of these 7 HQ multipliers. This was about 8 hours of working the contest.

Please E-Mail me at above address!

73,

Brian (N8RPA)

Date: 11 Jul 1994 19:17:10 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!gatech!news-feed-1.peachnet.edu!news.duke.edu!eff!news.umbc.edu!haven.umd.edu!cville-srv.wam.umd.edu!ham@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: IARU Contest
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <2vrs1k\$s5d@news1.hh.ab.com>,
Brian J. Pennebaker <bjp@icd.ab.com> wrote:
>bad in northern Ohio. 20 Meters is where we did the best. We made 91
>contacts of these 7 HQ multipliers. This was about 8 hours of working the
>contest.

This was, by far, the worst conditions I have EVER seen in my 8 years of contesting! As you'll see in my .signature, I run a dipole antenna. Most of the time, there's at least SOMETHING above 20 meters to speak of.

This weekend, I heard ONE person on 10 meters and nobody on 15. I remember back to 1990 when a little guy like me could pop up on 20 and 15, and work Russians all day. Eastern Europe was there until last summer. Now 20 is like a big wasteland for me and DX - I'm forced to 40 and 80, where the antenna becomes much less effective, so maybe I should pick up on 6 meters and look for e-skip or something like that.

I was looking forward to this contest for quite a while. I was really disappointed (but didn't feel so bad about going out to dinner Sat. nite).

Just think, another two years, and we'll be at the bottom!!! :-(

o
o
o

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73,

----- The
 \ / Long Original

Scott Rosenfeld Amateur Radio NF3I Burtonsville, MD | Live \$5.00
WAC-CW/SSB WAS DXCC - 125 QSLed on dipoles -----| Dipoles! Antenna!

Date: 11 Jul 1994 22:30:46 GMT

From: pa.dec.com!src.dec.com!src.dec.com!ira@decwrl.dec.com

Subject: Letter to Washington about FCC delays

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Here is a copy of a letter I am sending today to my Senators and Congressmen. I suggest that anyone who cares about the FCC's beaurocratic bungling of new license requests write their Washington representatives rather than just beefing about it here. We can all commiserate with one another, but we can't do anything about it. Your Senators and Congresspeople can.

regards,

Ira

-----ATTACHED-----

Dear Senator ,

Considering all the difficult and intractable problems that come before you, I'm sure you will be glad to have a simple one brought to your attention. The FCC requires that amateur radio operators have a valid FCC license before they can operate their radios. The delay for obtaining this license from the FCC is now at the absurd length of 17 weeks (see attached). Anything you can do to alleviate this beaurocratic snafu will be much appreciated by the many Ham enthusiasts in your state and around the country. It is now the summertime, and many students are looking for summer jobs. At the very least some summer help could be hired to temporarily reduce the backlog while a better permananet solution is sought. I look forward to hearing back from you on this trivial but annoying matter of government beaurocracy.

Sincerely,

Ira Machefsky

Article: 61913 of rec.radio.amateur.misc
Path: src.dec.com!crl.dec.com!crl.dec.com!decwrl!ames!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!usc!
howland.reston.ans.net!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!news.umbc.edu!haven.umd.edu!cville-
srv.wam.umd.edu!ham
From: ham@wam.umd.edu (Scott Richard Rosenfeld)
Newsgroups: rec.radio.amateur.misc
Subject: FCC Delays now at 17 weeks! PLEASE READ!!!
Date: 11 Jul 1994 19:28:20 GMT
Organization: University of Maryland College Park
Lines: 34
Distribution: usa, na, md, dc, va
Message-ID: <2vs6gk\$rm9@cville-srv.wam.umd.edu>
NNTP-Posting-Host: rac1.wam.umd.edu

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Scott Rosenfeld Amateur Radio NF3I Burtonsville, MD | Live \$5.00
WAC-CW/SSB WAS DXCC - 125 QSLed on dipoles -----| Dipoles! Antenna!

Keywords:

Date: 11 Jul 1994 21:22:40 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!spool.mu.edu!news.nd.edu!
mac17@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: QSL addresses - please help
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Could anyone help with the following? I am especially interested in wd0fzw,
who gave me South Dakota on 40 but no longer seems to live in Sioux Falls
(at least, directory assistance doesn't have a number for him). Does anyone
know him?

Callsign servers return "no references found":

n1qwg
n1ran
kg4an
ke4krt
w4ma
kr4mi
kc5ebw
kj5rt
ab7ad
kc7bnh
kc7cli
kb0mlz

Callsign servers return bad address:

kd4pvm mail returned from: RT 1 BOX 299, HOPE MILLS, NC 28348
n7uvh mail returned from: POB 786, POST FALLS, ID 83854
wd0fzw mail returned from: 1400 K AVE LOT 35 ELMWOOD TRLR CT,
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104

Thanks very much,
Charles
N9SQE

Date: Mon, 11 Jul 1994 20:14:41 GMT

From: news.Hawaii.Edu!kahuna!jeffrey@ames.arpa
Subject: What sends COMMAS on CW & very high power in Bowie, MD area?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <RICHARD_BOLT-110794093910@bolt.gsfc.nasa.gov>
RICHARD_BOLT@CCMAIL.GSFC.NASA.GOV (Lightning Bolt) writes:
>One home TV wipes out on all channels when this COMMA machine is on!
>Removes color. Other TVs do not see it. comma & 4 seconds, agn comma.
>(...--..). Not on any ham freq. HF nor 2 nor 6! Abt 15 min at beg. of ever
>hr & 15 min at Half hr.
>Poss. Air Force transmitting station 2 miles away? Dick W1DGA

Isn't ..__.. Morse for 'question mark'? The 'comma' is __..__ which
is also used to tell someone they're a lid (at least on the marine
frequencies).

Jeff NH6IL

Date: Mon, 11 Jul 1994 20:33:34 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!gatech!newsxfer.itd.umich.edu!zip.eecs.umich.edu!
yeshua.marcam.com!news.kei.com!wang!dbushong@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: What sends COMMAS on CW & very high power in Bowie, MD area?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

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>--
>W1DGA

Can you get your hands on a spectrum analyzer and hook it up to your
antenna and see if a blip pops up when the interference is present?

(BTW, comma is --...--)

Dave, KZ10

--
Dave Bushong, Wang Imaging

Date: 11 Jul 1994 18:53:00 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!news.cac.psu.edu!
usenet@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Where does the name "ham" originate?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The name "ham" for the radio amateur seems to have an unclear origin.

Does anyone have any ideas?

Tnx and 73/Tony

Date: Mon, 11 Jul 94 21:54:21 GMT
From: netcomsv!butch!enterprise!news@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: which Ringo do I buy?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1994Jul11.122229.1604@ke4zv.atl.ga.us>, gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us (Gary Coffman) writes:

|>

|> In article <9407051514.AA26678@pobox.wellfleet> ginsburg@wellfleet.com writes:

|> >I'm in the market for a 2 meter vertical for use mostly on packet and

|> >it looks like the Cushcraft Ringo is the most popular product. Which

|> >of the 3 varieties, Ringo, Ringo Ranger or Ringo Ranger II should I

|> >plunk my money down for? Is the RR II that much better than the RR in

|> >terms of gain and bandwidth?

|>

|> Alas, the Ringo is popular because it is cheap, not because it is good.

|> It will show an excellent VSWR bandwidth, but so does a dummy load.

|> What it won't offer is a clean pattern, gain comensurate with it's size,
|> or reasonable longevity. A Comet or Diamond will be better, even a J-pole
|> will be better than the basic Ringo. About the only antenna that is worse
|> than a Ringo is a Cushcraft 4-pole (fah, a piece of junk). Short of buying
|> a Cellwave antenna (mucho \$\$\$), a Comet or Diamond will give the best bang
|> for the buck. (Note you can *build* a Comet or Diamond type antenna fairly
|> easily and cheaply. That really gives the best bang for the buck.)
|>
|> A note on VSWR bandwidth. Any *simple* monopole antenna that has a
|> 2:1 VSWR bandwidth over greater than 2 MHz at 2 meters has something wrong
|> with it, like horrible efficiency. (Measurement interpretation errors
|> can fool you here. If the coax has greater than 5 db of loss, you'll
|> never see greater than 2:1 VSWR at the transmitter, even if the antenna
|> is shorted or open.) More complex antenna designs *can* have greater
|> bandwidth and still retain efficiency (log colinear stacks, log periodic
|> yagis, bowties, etc), but only if the implementation of the design is good.
|>
|> Gary

Gary, do you have or can you direct us to any hard data concerning the
commonly available 2m antennas? You talk about "bang for the buck",
but I would like to have some more meaningful data to consider.

A longevity note: My father has had a 2m Ringo in continuous service
for more than 10 years. He lives in northern Nevada with high-altitude
sunlight, high winds (bent his 35 foot "self supporting" tubular tower
over 4' above the ground), snow and ice, etc. Longevity is one
attribute that I can address with authority, and the Ringo seems to be
acceptable.

Can you direct us to plans for homebrew versions of the Comet or Diamond
designs? I like these antennas, but would prefer one that is made in
the U.S. (by me!)

George Lyle, N7TNJ

Date: (null)
From: (null)
CUL

Smitty, NA5K/M

--
Henry Smith (hbs@crl.com)

Date: 11 Jul 1994 12:41:33 -0700
From: nntp.crl.com!crl3.crl.com!not-for-mail@decwrl.dec.com
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1994Jul7.153925.1@woods.uml.edu>, <2vjgg4\$i5d@crl3.crl.com>,
<lcJ8kiubGAhE066yn@access.digex.net>
Subject : Re: Copying CW, and why it's friendlier than phone

Andy Domonkos (domonkos@access.digex.net) wrote:
: In article <2vjgg4\$i5d@crl3.crl.com>, Henry B. Smith wrote:

: > My commute is about an hour long and I work 40 CW in the morning
: > (about 6 AM CST) and 20 CW in the evening (about 4:30 PM CST).
: >
: > Give me a call if you hear me!
: >
: > Smitty, NA5K/M
: >
: Smitty,

: Where on 40M CW are you 'parked'? I hang around 7040 - 7050 mobile CW...

: Andy N3LCW

Andy,

Date: 11 Jul 1994 18:38:22 GMT
From: eng.iac.honeywell.com!server2.iac.honeywell.com!scornelius@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <CsL6nI.8qr@news.Hawaii.Edu>, <2vka5b\$2v1@adm09.iac.honeywell.com>,
<Csr2BE.2Eu@news.Hawaii.Edu>
Subject : Re: Does CW as a pre-req REALLY Work?

In article <Csr2BE.2Eu@news.Hawaii.Edu>, jeffrey@kahuna.tmc.edu (Jeffrey Herman)
writes:

...deletia...

|> >(2) An FAA designated examiner, who also gets his job qualification from
|> > being an experienced pilot and instructor. He doesn't work directly
|> > for the FAA, yet his job depends on their scrutiny of his actions.
|>
|> Again, he's certified by the FAA, not by just a pilot's organization
|> similar to the amateur's ARRL.
|>
|> Who administers the pilot's written exam? My ground school instructor

|> administered my written; he was certified by the FAA, not by just
|> a pilot's organization similar to the amateur's ARRL.
|>
|> Jeff NH6IL

Correct, but the VE is still "certified" under FCC-established rules.

The controls aren't as tight as they are in the aviation case, and I assume this is because the risk of error carries less potential for disaster.

- steve, aa7xv

--

Steve Cornelius | If you *don't* like airplane noise,
Phoenix, AZ, USA | then why in the #*!! did you buy a
scornelius@server2.iac.honeywell.com| house next to an airport !?

Not a Honeywell opinion.

Date: 11 Jul 1994 12:27:05 -0700
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!library.ucla.edu!psgrain!news.tek.com!macs!macs!not-for-mail@network.ucsd.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <wb9omc.773515194@constellation.ecn.purdue.edu>,
<2vrj3s\$st@macs.ico.tek.com>, <2vrrja\$n28@sbctri.sbc.com>p
Subject : Re: Radios for Emergency Use

In article <2vrrja\$n28@sbctri.sbc.com> Kenneth M. Gianino <gianino@sbctri.sbc.com> writes:

> a civil
>aviation band (116-137MHz AM, worldwide) HT is a good alternative. The fact
>that all the receivers are at 2000 to 30,000 feet AGL eliminates the need for
>any special power or antenna considerations...

Yes that should work. The problem is that you would buy an expensive radio which you could not legally use except in an emergency (unless you happen to be involved in aviation). I suspect few people would be willing to put out the bucks and carry the weight unless they could also use the radio for more day to day activities. Ham, CB and cellular all have day to day applications so you aren't just waiting for an emergency.

End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #777
